

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 98-630)

In re t	he Application of:)	
	David GRABELSKY et al.)	Examiner Abdulhakim Nobahar
Serial	No. 09/270,967)	Group Art Unit 2132
Filed:	March 17, 1999)	
For:	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR)	
	DISTRIBUTED NETWORK)	
	ADDRESS TRANSLATION WITH)	
	NETWORK SECURITY FEATURES	j	

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Dear Sir:

We, David Grabelsky, residing at 3800 Lee Street, Skokie, IL 60076; Michael Borella, residing at 1208 Haverhill Circle, Naperville, IL 60563; Ikhlaq Sidhu residing at 2502 Branch Road, Champaign, IL 61822; and Danny Nessett residing at 34810 Wabash River Place, Fremont, CA 94555, hereby declare:

1. We are the original and joint inventors of the subject matter in the United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/270,967 filed on March 17, 1999 as a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/035,600 (now U.S. Patent 6,353,614), and entitled, "Method and System for Distributed Network Address Translation with Network Security Features."

2. The invention disclosed in the above-captioned patent application was conceived

cooperatively by David Grabelsky, Michael Borella, Ikhlaq Sidhu, and Danny Nessett at least as

early as September 10, 1998. This date is prior to the effective § 102(e) dates of the references

cited by the Examiner: Ylonen et al, U.S. Patent 6,438,612, filed September 11, 1998; and

Danieli, U.S. Patent 6,510,513, filed January 13, 1999.

3. Exhibit A accompanies this declaration and includes photocopies of portions of a

3COM Invention Disclosure Form that establishes the conception of our invention. Although the

dates have been redacted from Exhibit A, they are at least as early as September 10, 1998. At

least four drafts of the patent application were produced, reviewed, and edited prior to filing the

application on March 17, 1999.

4. The invention was reduced to practice at least as early as March 17, 1999, the

filing date of this application. We were diligent in reducing our invention to practice from a time

just prior to September 11, 1998 until March 17, 1999. This diligence included creating and

submitting the Invention Disclosure Form of Exhibit A to 3Com's patent department and then

working with the outside counsel assigned to this case in order to prepare and file this patent

application. At least four drafts of the patent application were created by outside counsel during

this time period. We diligently reviewed each draft application and provided outside counsel

with all necessary information.

5. Our inventions were conceived and diligently reduced to practice in the United

States.

HULBERT & BERGHOFF 300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE, 32ND FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606 2

6. We hereby declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are

true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that

these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made

are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States

Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any

patent issuing thereon.

McDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF 300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE, 32ND FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606 (312)913-0001 Date: 20 July 2004

Signed: David Grabelsky

Date:	Signed:
	Michael Borella

Date:	Signed:
	Ikhlaa Sidhu

Ada Maria

Date: 7-21-2004

Signed: Ø

Danny Nessett